NEBRASKA SUPREME COURT

Office of Public Information

Contact: Janet Bancroft | (402) 471-3730 | jbancroft@nsc.state.ne.us

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Traffic Citations Can Now Be Paid On-line Through the Nebraska Court's New ePayment System

Motorists who receive payable traffic citations (tickets with a set fine which can be paid without a court appearance) will now be able to pay their traffic fines on the Internet in 18 counties through the Nebraska Judicial Branch's new on-line payment system.

Through the new ePayment secured payment system, traffic citations can be paid by logging onto the Judicial Branch Web site, www.supremecourt.ne.gov and clicking on the "ePayments" button in the left-hand menu. Users of ePayment can pay their citations using Visa, MasterCard or Debit cards with the Visa or MasterCard logos. Users will be assessed a transaction fee by the vendor.

"Electronic payments are standard operating procedure in the private sector. Electronic payments are also becoming standard operating procedure in state government," said Chief Justice Mike Heavican. "Effective use of technology is a priority in the Judicial Branch and we are pleased to be able to provide this new service to the public."

"Not only will the ePayment system be more convenient for motorists, but it will also help streamline the administrative process for the court system," said State Court Administrator Janice Walker. "When a fine is paid on-line, the court clerks do not have to re-enter the traffic citation payment into the system. The computer automatically records the payment the next business day and the user can print a confirmation, the same as ordering from a catalog."

"Courts offering ePayments include Boyd, Cass, Colfax, Cuming, Dawson, Hamilton, Holt, Keith, Knox, Lancaster, Merrick, Platte, Saunders, Seward, Stanton, Thayer, Thurston, and Washington," said Walker. "We hope to add the rest of the counties in early 2008." Contact information for the county courts can be found on-line: www.supremecourt.ne.gov/county-court/Coun-clerkmag-addr.shtml.

Typical traffic citations that can be paid on-line include: speeding tickets, seat belt violations, driving without current tags, failure to stop at stop sign, and similar offenses of a less serious nature.

However, more serious violations still require court appearances, including: driving on a suspended license, driving while under the influence of alcohol, driving an uninsured vehicle, or driving while impaired by controlled dangerous substances. Motorists may not pay their traffic citation on-line if the citation indicates that they must appear in court.

City and municipal parking citations must be paid to the local municipalities, although many cities have their own on-line ePayment programs.